



EcoDistricts' "Target Cities" program heralds a new era of urban regeneration.

Seven North American cities announce Clinton Global Initiative Commitment to Action, becoming global exemplars of sustainability through district-scale pilot projects emphasizing environmental performance, social equity, and economic growth.

DENVER, June 24, 2014. EcoDistricts today announced Target Cities, a two-year partnership with nine development projects across seven North American cities to amplify and accelerate district-scale community regeneration and create replicable models for next-generation urban revitalization. The new program was announced as a Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) Commitment to Action at the CGI America meeting.

"The most efficient and effective means of transforming cities is through district-scale projects, and Target Cities projects represents a powerful new approach for building the public-private-civic partnerships that drive real change," says Rob Bennett, EcoDistricts CEO. "The timing couldn't be more critical. Change in the form of an unstable climate, stressed infrastructure, shifting demographics and economic uncertainty has already arrived, so the question is not: 'will cities change'? It's: 'what shape will the change take?' Target Cities provides an exciting strategy for cities that are ready to act as global leaders."

The Target Cities projects, listed below, reflect the diversity of contemporary urban neighborhoods, from business districts with major investment resources to economically stressed communities looking to amplify neighborhood-driven revitalization.

- Atlanta – AUC Vine City Ecodistrict, a community situated within the Proctor Creek Catchment, which includes the world's largest consortium of African American private institutions that are seeking to restore ecological health and social opportunity for the area.
- Boston—Talbot Norfolk Triangle Eco-Innovation District, a community-driven effort to secure greater equity and prosperity throughout the 42-acre neighborhood, including energy efficient housing retrofits, community-owned renewable energy systems, and transit oriented development.
- Cambridge—Kendall Square, a 260-acre, high-density commercial innovation and transportation hub committed to district scale solutions for meeting expected growth in transit demand while improving energy efficiency through shared energy systems.
- Denver—Sun Valley, an effort driven by the Denver Housing Authority to revitalize Colorado's poorest neighborhood and reconnect residents to the larger city.
- Los Angeles—Little Tokyo, a culturally rich 20-acre neighborhood, seeking to accelerate investments in transit-oriented development, green infrastructure and community-driven projects that promote identity and prosperity.
- Ottawa, Ontario—The Isles, a 37-acre historically rich brownfield site on the Ottawa River that will be developed into a vibrant mixed use walkable village, integrate sustainable infrastructure into the historic fabric of the site and strengthen the connection between the cities of Ottawa and Gatineau.
- Washington—Downtown Business Improvement District, a 138-block area comprising 90 million square feet of real estate with ambitious energy efficiency and green infrastructure goals to help develop Downtown Washington, D.C. into the world's most sustainable financial district.
- Washington—SW Ecodistrict, a long-range plan to turn an isolated neighborhood defined by massive federal office buildings into a lively, ecologically progressive neighborhood.

- Washington—St. Elizabeth's/Congress Heights, a mixed-use campus and low income neighborhood of more than 350 acres, with an opportunity to leverage federal investment dollars in a manner that creates economic opportunity for area residents.

EcoDistricts will act as a strategic partner to each of the project teams, helping them build robust governance models that will spur deep political and technical change, perform integrated assessment and goal setting tasks and accelerate the deployment of strategies to deepen their impact.

More than 60 project partners, collaborators, research institutions, think tanks, and technical experts will unite to transform more than 1,300 acres of existing neighborhoods, downtown areas, business districts, historical precincts, brownfield sites, and university campuses. Tens of millions of square feet of real estate occupied by tens of thousands of existing and new residents, workers, visitors and students.

The projects are diverse, but each will use the EcoDistricts Protocol, a tool developed by EcoDistricts that supports and rewards district-scale projects in two key areas: setting rigorous performance goals and institutionalizing effective “process management.” It creates a powerful “integrated design and delivery” process to align key stakeholders and investors interests, build robust governance, promote rigorous and holistic assessment, and accelerate catalytic district-scale projects over time. Each step of the EcoDistricts approach is built around an interrelated set of environmental, economic, and social performance areas: energy; equitable development; health and wellbeing; community identity; transportation; water; habitat and ecosystem functionality; and optimized materials management.

The Target Cities projects will be the first projects in North America to utilize the Protocol, and their experiences will add important insight to the development of the tool over time. For more information on the Protocol, see the EcoDistricts [website](#).

The Target Cities program and the EcoDistricts Protocol will be explored in detail at the [2014 EcoDistricts Summit](#), to be held in Washington, D.C., September 24-26, 2014. Washington DC's Target Cities projects will provide Summit participants an opportunity to learn more about the program and how these important projects are supporting the City's broader sustainability agenda.

“Target Cities will make an important contribution to the North American urban regeneration agenda,” notes Tom Osdoba, Vice President Green Initiatives of Enterprise Community Partners and Board Chair, EcoDistricts. “These pilots will redefine how each of the participating cities approach planning and redevelopment practices at the district or neighborhood scale, and help us create a powerful multi-sector agenda to promote just, resilient and prosperous communities that emphasize innovation and sustainability.”

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About EcoDistricts

EcoDistricts is a Portland, Oregon, based nonprofit organization dedicated to just, sustainable and resilient cities and neighborhoods for all. EcoDistricts provides support and leadership for urban change makers and innovators to accelerate sustainable district and neighborhood scale regeneration. To learn more, visit ecodistricts.org.

About the Clinton Global Initiative America

The Clinton Global Initiative America (CGI America), a program of the Clinton Global Initiative, addresses economic recovery in the United States. Established in June 2011 by President Bill Clinton, CGI America brings together leaders in business, government, and civil society to generate and implement

commitments to create jobs, stimulate economic growth, foster innovation, and support workforce development in the United States. Since its first meeting, CGI America participants have made over 300 commitments valued at more than \$15 billion when fully funded and implemented. To learn more, visit cgiamerica.org.

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